



CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Publication Date: 11th March 2021

At a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 10th March 2021 the following matters were discussed. The decisions of Cabinet are set out below each item along with reasons for the decision and other options considered.

Present: Councillor Jackson (in the Chair)

Councillors Cracknell, Lindley, Proctor, Shepherd, Shreeve and S. Swinburn.

DN.107 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence for this meeting.

DN.108 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests made from Members with regard to items on the agenda for this meeting.

DN.109 MINUTES

The minutes of the Cabinet meeting on the 10th February 2021 and the special Cabinet meeting on the 17th February were agreed as a correct record.

DN.110 DELIVERY OF LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN 2021/2024

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport setting out a programme which will be delivered through the Councils Local Transport Delivery Plan (LTP) via grant funding from the Department for Transport.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the proposed Local Transport Plan Delivery Plan, as laid out at Appendix 1 of the report now submitted, including the**

Local Transport Plan capital programme for 2021/22-2023/24, be approved.

- 2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport to:**
 - finalise the terms of the funding arrangement with the Department for Transport (DfT) and receive funds,**
 - establish programme governance arrangements including the approval of any project variations, commence any related procurement exercises to deliver projects within the programme in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and to make appropriate contract awards.**
 - implement appropriate monitoring arrangements including receipt of a monthly update on programme progress to the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport to receive any additional in year Department for Transport funding and allocate spend accordingly through the Local Transport Plan programme and to deal with all ancillary matters arising.**
- 4. That the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets be authorised to settle, complete and execute all documentation arising from the above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION - In order for the Department for Transport grant funding to be received by the Council and for the 2021/22 LTP capital programme to be delivered within the necessary timescales.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – When developing the annual Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme, programme managers consider a wide range of potential schemes, taking into account the likely impact on the LTP transport challenges as well as other criteria specific to individual programme areas. In doing so, they develop a comprehensive list of schemes that address our responsibilities as a local highway authority and support the delivery of the Council's Local Plan and other key strategies. The Delivery Plan presents what is felt to be the most appropriate programme with regards to the available funding and scheme deliverability.

DN.111 ACCELERATING CONSTRUCTION FUNDING – FORMER MATTHEW HUMBERSTONE PLAYING FIELD SITE

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Housing and Tourism seeking approval to accept grant funding from Homes England Accelerated Construction Funding for £490,600, to support the provision of infrastructure on the former Matthew Humberstone playing field site.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Housing and Tourism to accept £490,600 of grant funding from Homes England on behalf of the Council.**
- 2. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development, Housing and Tourism to:**
 - a) finalise the terms of the funding arrangement with Homes England and receive the funds.**
 - b) commence related procurement exercises to deliver projects within the programme in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and to make appropriate contract awards.**
- 3. That the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets be authorised to settle, complete and execute all documentation arising from the above.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – A decision is required, as it will enable the Homes England grant funding to be received by the Council and for the construction of the project and provides funding that will reduce financial risk to the Council, subject to meeting the funding criteria and maximise land values.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED –

Decline the Homes England Funding and do nothing on site – The site would remain undeveloped and there would be no contribution towards the Council's housing growth targets.

Decline the Homes England funding and seek to use capital funding from the Council. This option would increase Council expenditure unnecessarily given the Homes England funding offer that is available.

Investment in the enabling works by a third party - NELC could use investment through a third party or investment partner. This model

would mean the Council would have to accept a reduction in the value of the land would have reduced influence over the development of the site which in turn could reduce the pace of delivery and the use of modern methods of construction.

Straight disposal of the land - NELC could market this site on the open market. This option would incur minimal cost but likely lead to a lower level of return and provide no control over pace of delivery or construction methods.

Preferred Option is to accept the ACF from Homes England, progress with housing development and provide joint access to the extra care facility.

DN.112 PET CREMATORIUM CHARGES

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport seeking approval to implement a charging policy for the authority's Pet Crematorium from the 1st April.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the content of this report be noted.**
- 2. That the implementation of the Pet Crematorium charges, as set out in Appendix 1 of the report now submitted, be approved.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, to deal with all arrangements and matters relating to, and arising from, the annual review of Pet Crematorium Charges, including but not limited to, the implementation of changes to the charging policy.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – In line with the Council's vision for a Stronger Economy and Stronger Communities, the Council's Commercial Strategy sets out the need for the Council to become more commercial in the future. This means looking to achieve best value for money at the same time as delivering key social outcomes for residents and meeting the needs of residents. The Pet Crematorium charges have arisen from the work on the Bereavement Services project, considered by Cabinet on 13 February 2019, which aims to make improvements to service provision and ensure that this service provision has the family of the bereaved at its core.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – The other option considered was for the Council to do nothing. However, this would not allow the Council to have a direct impact on improving choice for the public or allow for any surplus generated to be invested back into Council services, for the benefit of the wider local community.

DN.113 PROPOSED SUGGITT'S LANE FOOTBRIDGE

Cabinet considered a report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport seeking approval to enable Network Rail to progress with installing a new Suggitt's Lane footbridge.

RESOLVED –

- 1. That the installation of a footbridge, subject to all statutory duties being complied with, be supported.**
- 2. That the commencement of public engagement, in partnership with Network Rail, for the implementation of the structure, be approved.**
- 3. That authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Environment, Economy and Resources, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport, to carry out all actions to support the implementation of the footbridge accepting the following principles:**
 - That the structure will ultimately become a Council owned asset and the future maintenance regime will be financed by the Council.**
 - That any residual rights that may exist to support access to sea defences for repair and maintenance be extinguished in favour of alternative routes.**
 - That the £3.6m budget provided by Network Rail and Department of Transport for the whole scheme be noted as appropriate and will enable the scheme to progress satisfactorily and be delivered in a timely manner, thereby minimising any financial risk or disadvantage to the Council.**
- 4. That the Assistant Director Law, Governance and Assets be authorised to execute all documentation arising.**

REASONS FOR DECISION – The decision will enable the Council, working in partnership with Network Rail to progress public engagement and action all outstanding matters that may arise and are required to be delivered, prior to the installation of the structure.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – Should the recommendations within the report not be accepted, the level crossing over the railway would remain closed and access to the promenade remain restricted. This would fail to address the identified access problems.

DN. 114 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED – That the press and public be requested to leave on the grounds that discussion of the following business was likely to disclose exempt information within paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

DN.115 ACCELERATING CONSTRUCTION FUNDING – FORMER MATTHEW HUMBERSTONE PLAYING FIELD SITE

Cabinet considered an appendix to the report from the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport referred to at DN.111 above.

RESOLVED – That appendix to the report, pursuant to the decision at DN.111 above, be noted.

REASONS FOR DECISION – As per DN.111

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED – As per DN.111